

Message Text

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62

ACTION OES-06

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FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0000

INFO AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY RABAT

UNCLAS CASABLANCA 1058

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, MO , IT, DA, SP

SUBJ: SPANISH, ITALIAN, AND NORWEGIAN INTERESTS IN MOROCCO'S
FISHERIES

1 AN ITALIAN-MOROCCAN JOINT VENTURE KNOWN AS ARMIPECHE REPORTEDLY WAS ESTABLISHED IN JULY 1976. VENTURE INVOLVES HASSAN LYACoubi AND AARON BENATOFF OF FRESCOGEL (MILAN). INITIAL CAPITAL USDOLS 412,500. VENTURE WILL FISH FOR CEPHALOPODES FOR JAPANESE MARKET AND SHRIMP. IF SUCCESSFUL, THIS WILL BE MOROCCO'S FIRST COMMERCIAL SHRIMP FISHERY. FIRM, ON 16 AUGUST, INAUGURATED STERN TRAWLER "AIN LEUH" (WOODEN EYE) AN ITALIAN-BUILT 43X7 METER TRAWLER WITH 800-HP ENGINE. VESSEL HAS 200 CU. METER HOLD, CARRIES 18 CREWMEN AND CAN STAY OUT 45 DAYS.

2. SPANISH VENTURE, ARMEP (US\$625,000) INVOLVES LYACoubi AND UN-NAMED SPANISH PARTNERS. TWO 140-GRT TRAWLERS ON ORDER AT VOIGO, SPAIN TO SUPPLY FRESH FISH FOR LOCAL CONSUMPTION.

3. LYACoubi ALSO ESTABLISHED CHALUMAR WHICH INAUGURATED "AIN SEFA" (CLEAR EYE) ON 16 AUGUST, AN ITALIAN-BUILT VESSEL SIMILAR TO AIN-LEUH" EXCEPT THAT IT CARRIES 16 MAN CREW AND INCLUDES 5000 LBS/DAY FREEZING

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CAPACITY. FIRM, PRESUMABLY 100 PER CENT MOROCCAN, WILL ALSO FISH

FOR CEPHALOPODES AND/OR SHRIMP.

4. DANISH EMBASSY OFFICIAL REVEALED TO RFA DANISH INTERESTS
IN ESTABLISHING JOINT VENTURE TO BE CALLED SCANMAROC WHICH HOPES
TO SELL AND REPAIR FISHING VESSELS IN MOROCCO ALONG WITH FISHING
OPERATIONS. NO FURTHER DETAILS REVEALED BY SOURCE.MONJO

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